

Rain and colder tonight.
Tuesday, fair and colder.

The Washington Times

LAST EDITION

NUMBER 4568.

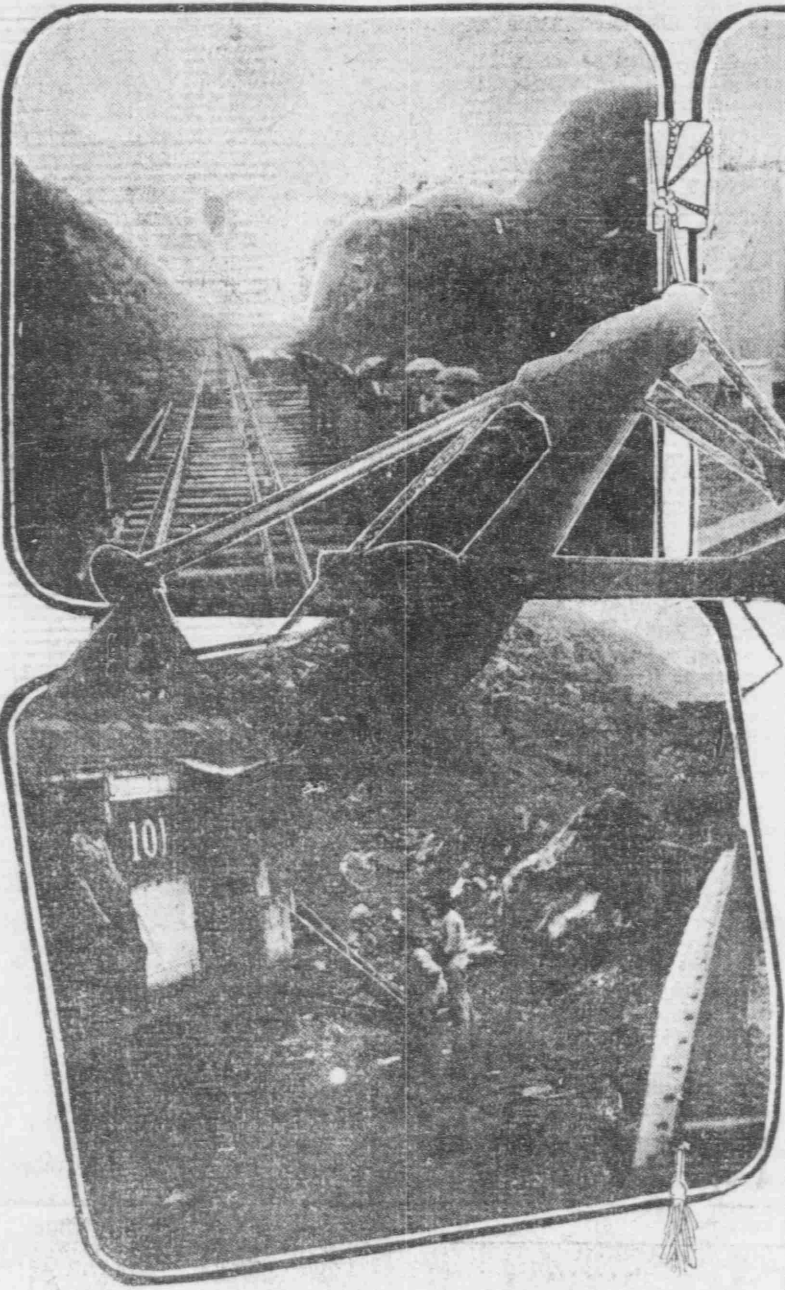
WASHINGTON, MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17, 1906.

PRICE ONE CENT

PANAMA CANAL A SUCCESS, SAYS THE PRESIDENT

SLANDERERS AND LIBELERS—Where they are Americans I feel for them the heartiest contempt and indignation; because, in a spirit of wanton dishonesty and malice, they are trying to interfere with, and hamper the execution of, the greatest work of the kind ever attempted, and are seeking to bring to naught the efforts of their countrymen to put to the credit of America one of the giant feats of the ages.

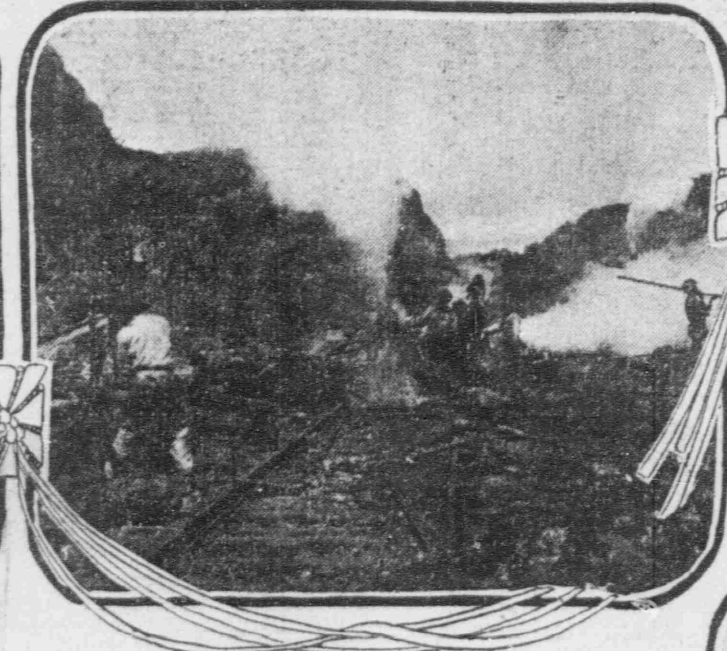
VIEWS ALONG THE CANAL AND IN THE CITIES OF THE CANAL ZONE. FROM PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE ISTHMUS, MORE THAN A SCORE OF WHICH ACCOMPANIED HIS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS TODAY



Steam Shovel at Work in Culebra Cut.



Top picture on left shows display of American flag across big cut and party awaiting arrival of President's train. Next picture is that of temporary camps at Gatun. The next picture shows steam drills at work in Bas Obispo Cut. The last shows laying of brick pavements in Panama.



Criticism of President's Course Bitterly Denounced In Message As Base Slander, Most Reckless

Wants Only One.

A seven-headed commission is of course a clumsy executive instrument. We should have but one commissioner, with such heads of departments and other officers under him as we may find necessary. We should be expressly permitted to employ the best engineers in the country as consulting engineers.

FULLY CONVINCED ENTERPRISE WILL BE GREAT SUCCESS

Hostility to Gigantic Undertaking Was Expected, But Endeavors to Show It Has Been Uncalled For.

MOST striking of the several unique features of the President's message to Congress, today, recounting his visit to the canal zone, and telling of the result of his personal investigations of the existing conditions to be found there, is his savage onslaught on those critics of the canal, whom he terms "dishonest," and whose criticisms he declares false, malicious, and mendacious.

"It is not only natural but inevitable," he says, "that a work as gigantic as this should arouse every species of hostility and criticism." There is much of what he calls "honest criticism," but "there remains an immense amount of as reckless slander as has ever been published."

ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE WORK.

A feature of novelty was lent the message by the fact that it was accompanied by twenty-six photographic scenes in the canal zone—the work on the canal, the improvement of the cities, the homes of the laborers, etc.

The half dozen reproduced on this page give a good idea of the character and variety of these products of the camera.

While not the most important part of the message they certainly were the most attractive to Senators and Representatives, if the interest with which they were scanned, to the neglect of the message, is any criterion.

That the President was pleased and satisfied with his visit to the zone, and has returned more convinced than ever of the feasibility and ultimate glorious success of the enterprise, is shown in his concluding words:

"THE EPIC NATURE OF THE TASK."

"Of the success of the enterprise I am as well convinced as one can be of any enterprise that is human. It is a stupendous work upon which our fellow-countrymen are engaged down there on the isthmus, and while we should hold them to a strict accountability for the way in which they perform it, we should yet recognize, with frank generosity, the epic nature of the task on which they are engaged and its world-wide importance."

(Continued on Second Page.)

THE BEST WASHINGTON PAPER

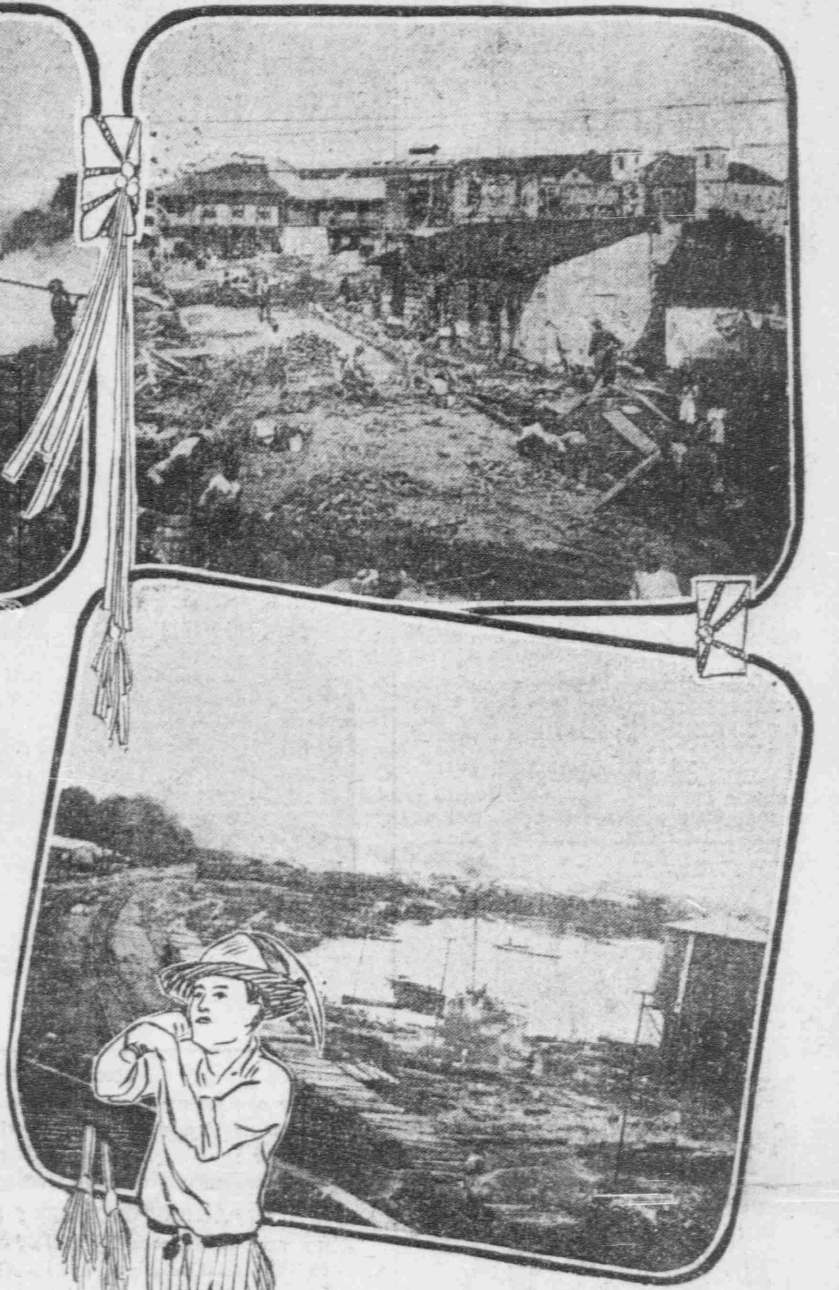
Sunday
Was

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

THE BEST WASHINGTON PAPER

Next Sunday
Will Be

THE WASHINGTON TIMES



Railway Yard at Cristobal.

Thousands Face Terrible Death In Fuel Famine

Railroads Only Power That Can Aid People in Northwestern States.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 17.—The northwest today faces the most serious fuel famine since 1903, when several deaths occurred, when scores of farmers abandoned their claims and extreme hardships were endured by thousands. The present famine has really only just begun and it still is possible to avert it if the railroads will furnish motive power to move immense coal piles in Duluth and West Superior.

While coal companies are clamoring for cars and railroads are making excuses, mayors of a dozen towns in Dakota, Montana, and northern Minnesota, are telegraphing news of shortage and the necessity for immediate action to Washington, to the governors of their respective states and to the editors of the twin cities newspapers.

Some of the towns which have made the vigorous protests are Granville, N. D., where fifteen cars are needed immediately to avert suffering; Galesburg, N. D., which thinks Federal troops could not be better employed than in running special coal cars; Glenburn, N. D., where farmers are camping together in village schools to conserve the scanty supply of fuel.

May Be Without Light.

At Castleton, N. D., there is a general shortage and the lighting plant may have to be shut down. Eleventh, Minn., faces darkness from the same cause; Lakota, N. D., sent a representative to Washington to tell its troubles to the Federal authorities. Raising a bumper crop and looking forward to a season of great prosperity, the farmers now find themselves unable to get their wheat to market or even to purchase fuel. Investigation of the inter-state Commission, which begins here today, may reveal the cause of the sluggishness of the railroads. That politics of some sort is back of the situation is confidently believed throughout the farming districts.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

SENATOR BAILEY CARRIES A GUN, FEARS ASSASSIN

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Dec. 17.—Fearing assassination from desperate political enemies, Senator Joseph W. Bailey is carrying a revolver during the campaign for the Senate. Senator Bailey says he was forced to draw his revolver last Saturday at Temple, where he made a bitter attack on his enemies. Two men advanced toward him in a threatening manner, but he drew his revolver before either acted. The incident passed.

Senator Bailey, in a statement, says he has personal pledges from twenty-three senators and eighty-three representatives to support him for re-election. Eighty-two votes are necessary to elect.

BLAMES FRAUD ON LAND LAWS IN MESSAGE

President Emphasizes
Need of Immediate
Action to Recast
Statutes.

The public land frauds in the West are the occasion for a special message to Congress by the President this afternoon. "The developments of the past year," says the President, "emphasize with increasing force the need of vigorous and immediate action to recast the public land laws and adapt them to the actual situation. The timber and stone act has demonstrated conclusively that its effect is to turn over the public timber lands to great corporations. It has done enormous harm, it is no longer needed, and it should be repealed."

The desert land act results so frequently in fraud and so comparatively seldom in making homes on the land that it demands radical amendments. That provisions which permits assignment before patent should be repealed and the entrymen should be required to live for not less than two years at home on the land before patent issues. Otherwise the desert land law will continue to assist speculators and other large holders to get control of land and water on the public domain by indefensible means."

The President expresses his "grave concern" over the general prevalence of fraud under the present provisions of the land laws, for much of which, he declares, the laws themselves are responsible. He says:

(Continued on Page Eleven.)

MOB MAY GET TWO WHO SLEW WM. BYWATERS

Strother Brothers' Unwritten Law May Provoke Lynch Law at Culpeper.

William F. Bywaters forced by brothers to marry Viola Strother, a Virginia belle.

Two brothers, one a West Virginia legislator, riddle the bridegroom with bullets. He dies thirty minutes later.

Public greatly incensed against slayers. Wife and mother of dead man in critical condition.

Death of either may be signal for lynching.

CULPEPER, Va., Dec. 17.—The "unwritten law," long looked upon as the proper thing in the South, has been frowned upon in Virginia.

For the first time in generations, a man slain under authority of the "unwritten law" has the sympathy of the public, and a murmur has been heard that lynching might be a good thing.

Public sentiment is with young William F. Bywaters, who was shot to death Saturday night by James A. and Philip J. Strother, one hour after the latter had forced him to marry their sister, Viola.

Instead of being commended as avengers of their family's honor, the authorities are referred to as murderers by some persons.

In some quarters summary punishment is advocated.

Prisoners Guarded.

Because of the prominence of the slayers, both of whom are wealthy and one a member of the West Virginia State Legislature, the authorities are apprehensive and are watching their prisoners anxiously, as there has been talk of the "great injustice" of the shooting. Young Bywaters had so many friends

YOUNGER BLOOD IN NAVY URGED BY PRESIDENT

Sends Special Message
to Congress on Passage
of Naval Personnel
Bill.

President Roosevelt sent a special message to Congress this afternoon urging the passage of the naval personnel bill, recommended by Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte, providing for earlier promotions for competent line officers of the navy to the grades of captain and admiral and establishing the grade of vice admiral.

"Under the present archaic system of promotions," says the President, "without parallel in the navy of any other first-class power, captains are commissioned at the average age of fifty-six, and rear admirals at the average of sixty."

"This system is the result of a long-continued prejudice in favor of a method of promotion which sacrifices the good of the service to the interests of individual mediocrity. As a direct consequence, naval officers have a limited and inadequate experience as captains in command of battleships, and as flag officers in charge of fleets and squadrons—that is, in the very positions of greatest responsibility, where experience, skill, and initiative are essential to efficiency. Moreover, they attain the position of a flag officer but a few months before they reach the retiring age, and have no opportunity to perfect themselves in the important duties of the high commands pertaining to such rank."

The President finds that the youngest

(Continued on Page Eleven.)